## REMARKS

Claims 1 and 13 have been amended. Claims 3-4 and 14 have been canceled.

The Examiner has objected to claims 1, 13 and 14 because of certain informalities.

Applicant has cancelled applicant's claim 14, thereby obviating the Examiner's objection with respect to this claim. Applicant has amended claims 1 and 13 to recite "said participants are" to correct grammatical errors, thereby obviating the Examiner's objection.

The Examiner has rejected applicant's claims 1-3, 5, 13 and 14 under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by the Derocher, et al. (U.S. 2003/0097449) publication. Applicant's claim 14 has been cancelled, thus obviating the Examiner's rejection with respect to this claim.

Applicant's independent claims 1 and 13 have been amended, and with respect to these claims, and their respective dependent claims, the Examiner's rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Examiner has indicated that applicant's claim 4 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant has amended applicant's independent claims 1 and 13 to include the features of the allowable claim 4 and of the intervening claim 3. Applicant's amended independent claim 1 thus represents claim 4 placed in independent form and is, therefore, believed allowable. Applicant's amended independent claim 13, which also recites the features of allowable claim 4, is also believed allowable. All other claims remaining in the application, i.e., claims 2 and 5, depend from allowable claim 1, and are also allowable.

In view of the above, all claims in the application, as amended, are allowable.

Accordingly, reconsideration of the claims and passage of same to issue is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes that an interview would expedite consideration of this

Amendment or of the application, a request is made that the Examiner telephone applicant's counsel at (212) 790-9286.

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